

REMARKS

I. Summary of Examiner's Office Action

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 8, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hayes U.S. Patent No. 3,886,616 ("Hayes"). The Examiner also rejected claims 2-3, 7, 9-10, 12-14, and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayes. The Examiner allowed Claim 17, and stated that Claims 5 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

II. Amendments to the Claims

The Examiner stated that Claim 5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of its respective base claims and any intervening claims. Claim 5, as previously amended, depended directly from independent Claim 1. Claim 1 has now been amended to include all limitations of Claim 5. Therefore, Claim 1, as presently amended, should be allowable. Furthermore, since Claims 2-3 and 7-11 depend from

Claim 1, they also should allowable. Claims 4 and 5 have been canceled.

The Examiner also stated that Claim 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of its respective base claims and any intervening claims. Claim 15, as previously amended, depended directly from independent Claim 12. Claim 12 has now been amended to include all limitations of Claim 15. Therefore, Claim 12, as presently amended, should be allowable. Furthermore, since Claim 13 depends from Claim 12, it also should allowable. Claims 14 and 15 have been canceled. Additionally, independent Claims 18 and 19 have been canceled.

III. Conclusion

Claims 1-3, 7-13, and 17 remain in the application. Claim 1 has been rewritten to include all limitations of Claim 5, which places it in condition for allowance, and Claims 2-3 and 7-11 depend therefrom. Claim 12 has been rewritten to include all limitations of Claim 15, which places it in condition for allowance, and Claim 13 depends therefrom. Claim 17 has been allowed by the Examiner. Therefore, this application is in

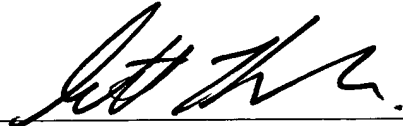
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condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully
requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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